

Schizachyrium scoparium

(Andropogon scoparius)

Little Bluestem

Preferred Water Depth and Inundation Tolerance

Dry to mesic prairie species. No inundation tolerance.

Wildlife Value

Palatable and nutritious for grazing species. Provides cover for grassland birds.

Application/Zone

Branching, numerous vertical roots extending to a depth of 6 feet can stabilize upland slope buffers and generally will hold soil and prevent erosion wherever established.

Availability, Establishment, and Maintenance

- Best by seed. No pretreatment of seed is necessary. Germinates in April when planted in the fall.
- In mixed grass plantings use 75% Little Bluestem on dry, dry mesic, or mesic short grass plantings. Equal amounts of Side-oats Grama may also be used on dry mesic or dry areas.

Little Bluestem

Schizachyrium scoparium

(*Andropogon scoparius*)

Mature Height

2-3 feet

Plant Type

Perennial tufted grass

Indicator Status

Facultative Upland (-)

pH

Wide range

Nutrient Load Tolerance

Low

Salt Tolerance

Not available

Siltation Tolerance

Low

Flowering Color and Time

Reddish-brown

August to September

Light Preference

Full sun

Seeding Rate

1 - 6 lbs/acre

